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Secondly, the amendment clarifies the duties of the advisory committee by more correctly stating its role in the assessment performed under Section 5 and the report prepared under Section 4. It was envisioned that the advisory committee would be an active partner, essentially in providing research and writing support to the commission as it worked through its duties under the bill. The membership on the advisory committee is intended to bring to the process the necessary expertise, and we had intended that the committee would be primarily responsible for writing the report required in Section 4. The amendment would more specifically and correctly state that role by stating explicitly that the committee shall advise and assist the commission in those duties. Finally, the bill moves back the date for the report required by Section 4 of the bill from December 1 of this year to December 1 of 2001. The Natural Resources Commission requested this one-year delay, in part because of its anticipated distraction in carrying out the combining of the commission with the Department of Water Resources, and in part due to its concern about being able to organize the committee and do substantial work needed in time to meet the December 1, 2000, deadline. The timing of this report is not critical provided it precedes the completion of the assessment under Section 5 of the bill, and I would agree to the one-year delay. I urge the adoption of this amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Dierks. On the Dierks amendment, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I'll waive.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Wehrbein, on the Dierks amendment. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I rise to support this. I wanted to...would you repeat something? I was trying to get it verified downstairs and I wasn't able to. Cap, would you repeat something on the timing of this? It's a two year. And I...I did...did I catch the amendment changed something?

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Dierks.